

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 21-23 were examined. Claims 1 and 21 are amended. Claims 11-20 are canceled. Claims 1-10 and 21-23 remain in the Application.

The Patent Office rejects claims 1-10 and 21-23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0030793 of Chang et al. (Chang). Chang describes a method of forming a high-k dielectric by atomic layer deposition. Chang discloses supplying gases to minimize undesirable bonds. See, e.g., paragraph 0058. Chang does not talk about modifying the energy level of undesirable bonds or exciting the undesirable bonds to an energy level sufficient to activate the undesirable bonds and insufficient to activate desirable bonds.

Claim 1 is not anticipated by Chang, because Chang does not describe a method comprising exciting an undesirable bond to an energy sufficient to activate the undesirable bond and insufficient to activate a desirable bond. Instead, Chang uses gases to minimize undesirable bonds. The amended language in claim 1 is supported in the Application at, for example, paragraph 0034 and paragraph 0045.

Claims 2-10 depend from claim 1 and therefore contain all the limitations of that claim. For at least the reason stated with respect to claim 1, claims 2-10 are not anticipated by Chang.

Claim 21 is not anticipated by Chang, because Chang does not describe a method comprising modifying undesirable bonds in an atomic layer deposition formed film by exciting the undesirable bonds to an energy level sufficient to activate the undesirable bonds and insufficient to activate desirable bonds. As noted above, Chang uses gases to minimize undesirable bonds.

Claims 22-23 depend from claim 21 and therefore contain all the limitations of that claim. For at least the reason stated with respect to claim 21, claims 22-23 are not anticipated by Chang.

CONCLUSION


In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending, namely claims 17-27, are patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record, and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be useful in moving the application forward to allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (310) 207 3800.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office.


Nedy Calderon

9/7/05
Date